spirit of the "Common Minimum Programme" of the United Front.

खनन क्षेत्र के विकास के लिए राज्य सरकारों को आवंटन

2768. **श्री चिमनभाई हरिभाई शुक्ल:** क्या खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान प्रत्येक राज्य सरकार को खनन क्षेत्र में विकास कार्यक्रमों को लागू करने के लिए कुल कितनी धनराशि आवंटित की गई है;

(ख) राज्य-वार किन-किन क्षेत्रों में नई खानों की पहचान की गई है; और

(ग) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान प्रत्येक राज्य सरकार द्वारा खनन विकास क्षेत्र में विकास कार्यक्रमों के लिए कुल कितनी धनराशि वास्तव में खर्च की गई?

इस्पात मंत्री तथा खान मंत्री (श्री बीरेन्द्र प्रसाद बैश्य): (क) से (ग) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Expansion of Visakhapantnam Steel Plant

2769. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is pending with Government to expand the existing capacity of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINISTER OF MINES, (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) and (b) Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (Visakhapatnam Steel Plant) has proposed to take up the following new projects:

(i) Expansion of VSP from 3 MT stage to 4.05 MT stage of Liquid Steel produciton at an estimated cost of Rs. 984 crores (base date of last quarter 1994-95)

(ii) Installation of facilities for Coal Dust Injuction and Oxygen enrichment for BF-I at an estimated cost of Rs. 40 crores.

(iii) Combined Blowing LD Converters at an estimated cost of Rs. 10 crores.

(iv) Installation of 5th 67.5 MW Turbo Generator for augmenting captive power generation at an estimated cost of Rs. 94 crores.

With a view to assess the likely availability of funds to finance the proposed expansion scheme the company engaged M/s. ICICI Securities & Finance Co. Ltd., (I-SEC) to provide its views on financing possibilities for the expansion and other new projects as listed above and suggest various sources for raising the funds. The report of I-SEC reveals that for funding the expansion and other new projects, it would be possible for the company to generate Rs. 800 crores internally, through implementation of the following:

(i) Grant of Interest Holiday as well as moratorium on repayment of GOI Loans instalments for a period of 5 years from 1994-95.

(ii) Rolling over of UTI instalments falling due during the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 totaling to Rs. 440 crores.

(iii) Roll over to the extent of Rs. 600 crores out of the interest free GOI loan of Rs. 791 crores falling due in 1999-2000.

The balance will, however, have to be met from commercial borrowings which may not be difficult for RINL to procure in view of the imporved financial position of the company.